

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Kindly amend the claims, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows:

Listing of the Claims:

Claims 1-4. (Canceled).

5. (Currently Amended) A magazine-like carrier device for handling and heat treating a plurality of rectangular bags or film packs, said carrier device having a plurality of successively arranged, substantially parallel ~~opened at the lower end~~ partitions to receive one of said film bags or film packs, ~~receiving pockets being formed by a pair of spaced partitions arranged between said plurality of partitions forming a plurality of receiving pockets at a lower end of the device, said partitions separating each receiving pocket from two adjacent receiving pockets below said partitions,~~ said receiving pockets having a v-shaped bottom-, and wherein the width of the carrier device substantially corresponds to the longest dimension of said bags or film packs to be received and wherein the height of the carrier device is smaller than the length of the shorter lateral edge of said bags or film packs received therein.

6. (Original) A carrier device according to claim 5, wherein the mutual spacing of said partitions forming said receiving pockets substantially corresponds to the thickness of the film packs received therein.

7. (Previously Presented) A carrier device according to claim 6 wherein said partitions forming said receiving pockets are arranged manner with an opening angle of more than 0°.

8. (Original) A carrier device according to claim 7 wherein said partitions are flexibly held on an elongated body so that said receiving pockets may be expanded while increasing the opening angle.

9. (Canceled).

10. (Original) A carrier device according to claim 5 wherein said carrier device has a stackable construction.

11. (Original) A carrier device according to claim 10 wherein said carrier device has a stackable construction so that said receiving pockets of one carrier device are partly positioned in gaps between receiving pockets of an adjacently arranged carrier device.